

River Pool at Beacon



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About River Pool at Beacon

Summary

This exciting and innovative structure is intended to provide a safe area for swimming and wading in the Hudson River for people of all ages and to promote use, awareness and stewardship of the Hudson River. The first phase of the River Pool is a 20' prototype wading pool which will be used to test the materials for the pool bottom. A larger, full use swimming pool will be constructed during Phase 2.

More than 30 years after the Clean Air and Water Act, the Hudson River is cleaner than ever and it is time to advance River stewardship by promoting access to, and swimming in, the Hudson River.

Goals and Objectives

- Provide access to the Hudson River via a facility inexpensive to the public.
- Educate the general public about the importance of continuing to preserve and clean the Hudson River.
- Promote swimming as a fun healthful fitness activity in a natural environment.
- Demonstrate to other communities the viability of floating pools by building a successful prototype.

The River Pool Site

The Beacon River Pool will be located just off the north shore of Riverfront Park – a central destination for local youth and adults. The Park is only minutes away from Beacon's train station and ferry dock as well as regional attractions such as the DIA: Beacon and the Beacon Landing peninsula. The water quality at the River Pool site is one of the best in Dutchess County.

River Pool Precedents

In the 19th and early 20th Century floating bathhouses dotted the perimeter of Manhattan. These submerged wooden cages were open to the flow of the river- and allowed for safe swimming and bathing. Similar "flow-thru" river pools were found in Paris and other European cities and a few are still in active use in Switzerland's rivers today. Today, due to considerable water quality improvements in the Hudson River and growing community interest in recreational river swimming, the construction of a River Pool is once again a timely endeavor.

Beacon River Pool Description

Like its historic precedents, the Beacon River Pool is partially submerged in the water, allowing River water to flow through. From the shore of the park, a ramp will lead to the pool. This prototype pool will be 20 feet in diameter with a water depth ranging between 18 and 20 inches. The pool bottom, which is a high strength fabric made of woven web-belts will be held in place by an inflatable structural perimeter tube. Floatation/seats line the perimeter of the pool - offering pool users spectacular views of the River. The pool will be used from end of May to end of September and will be stored on land in the winter season. The success of this prototype will facilitate the development of larger and deeper floating pools in the future.

How to Help

- Help keep the river clean! If you are a boater, be sure to use pumpout stations.
- Join us! River Pool is a non-profit volunteer organization and meets regularly with several active committees. Sign up on our mailing list, send an [e-mail](#), or call 845-220-7669 to join us.
- Help with a financial contribution. Tax deductible contributions can be made out to Beacon Sloop Club, and write "River Pool Fund" on the check and mail it to River Pool at Beacon, PO Box 173 Beacon NY, 12508.
- Tell a friend.

Contact

River Pool at Beacon
P.O. Box 173
Beacon, NY 12508

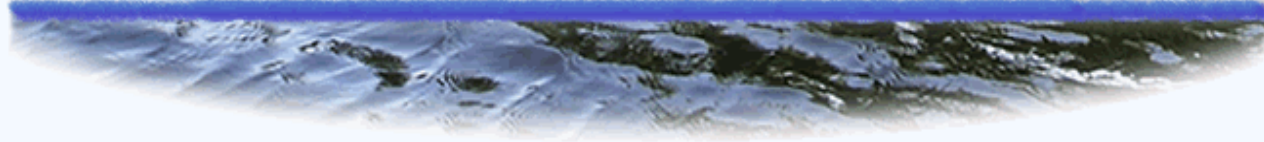
Tel. 845-220-7669
Email info@riverpool.org

riverpool.org

For website matters: webmaster@riverpool.org

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Prototype River Pool to be built in Beacon in 2006

Design: © Meta Brunzema Architect PC, 2005

The prototype pool will be installed in the Hudson River between late May and late September each year. The first installation is planned for summer 2006.

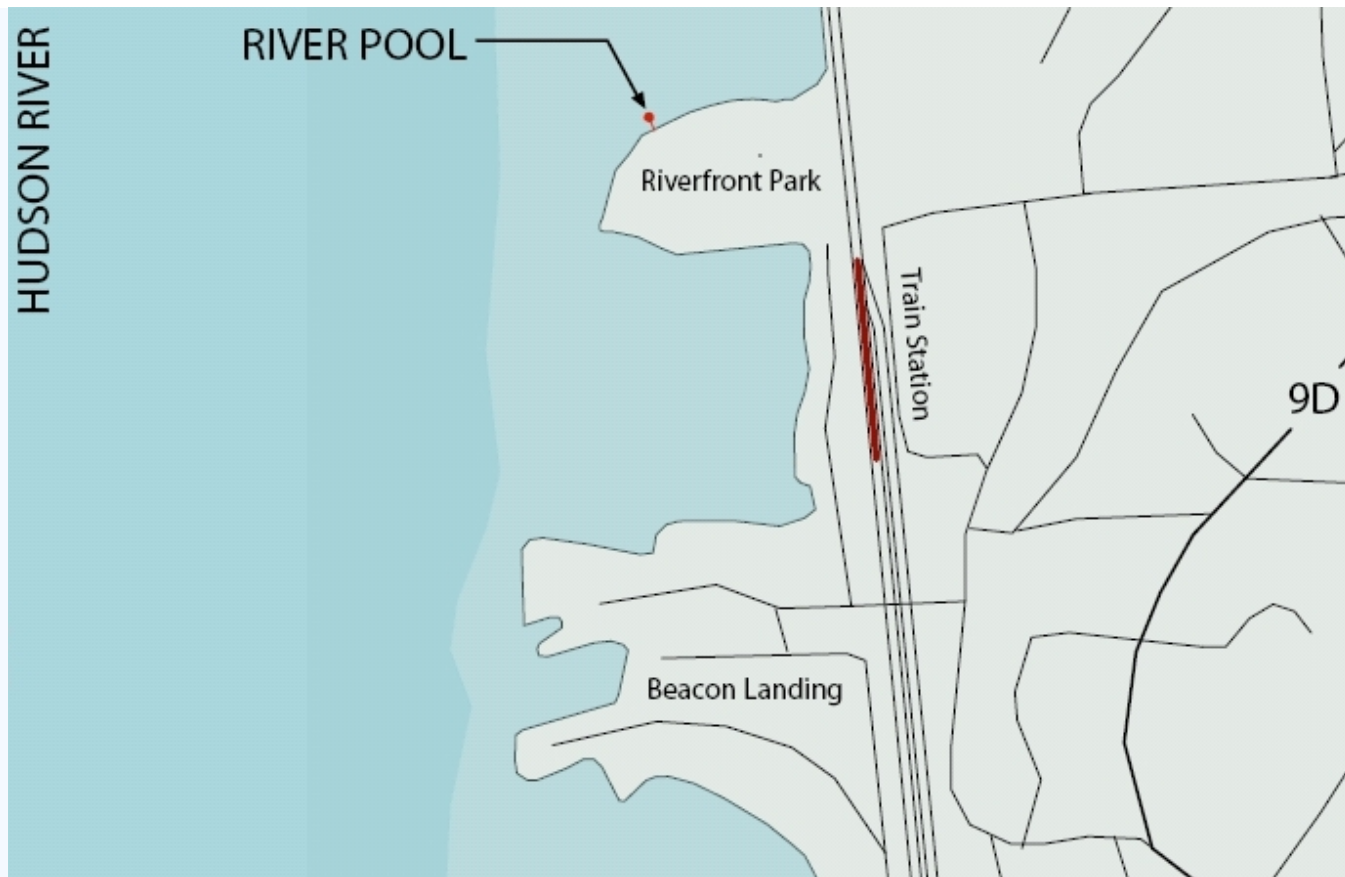
This River Pool will be accessible to the public for a minimal fee. It will provide access to the Hudson River for people of all income levels, and especially to low-income families who have limited access to swimming facilities on the hot summer days. By virtue of being a beautiful, translucent structure located within the Hudson River, the pool will serve the recreational needs of adults, children and seniors from the local community and tourists visiting Beacon. Now that the Hudson River is cleaner than ever, the floating pool is envisioned to be a recreational amenity and in-water "environmental classroom".

Pool Design

The following drawings (courtesy of Meta Brunzema Architect PC) show the location and design for the River Pool prototype.

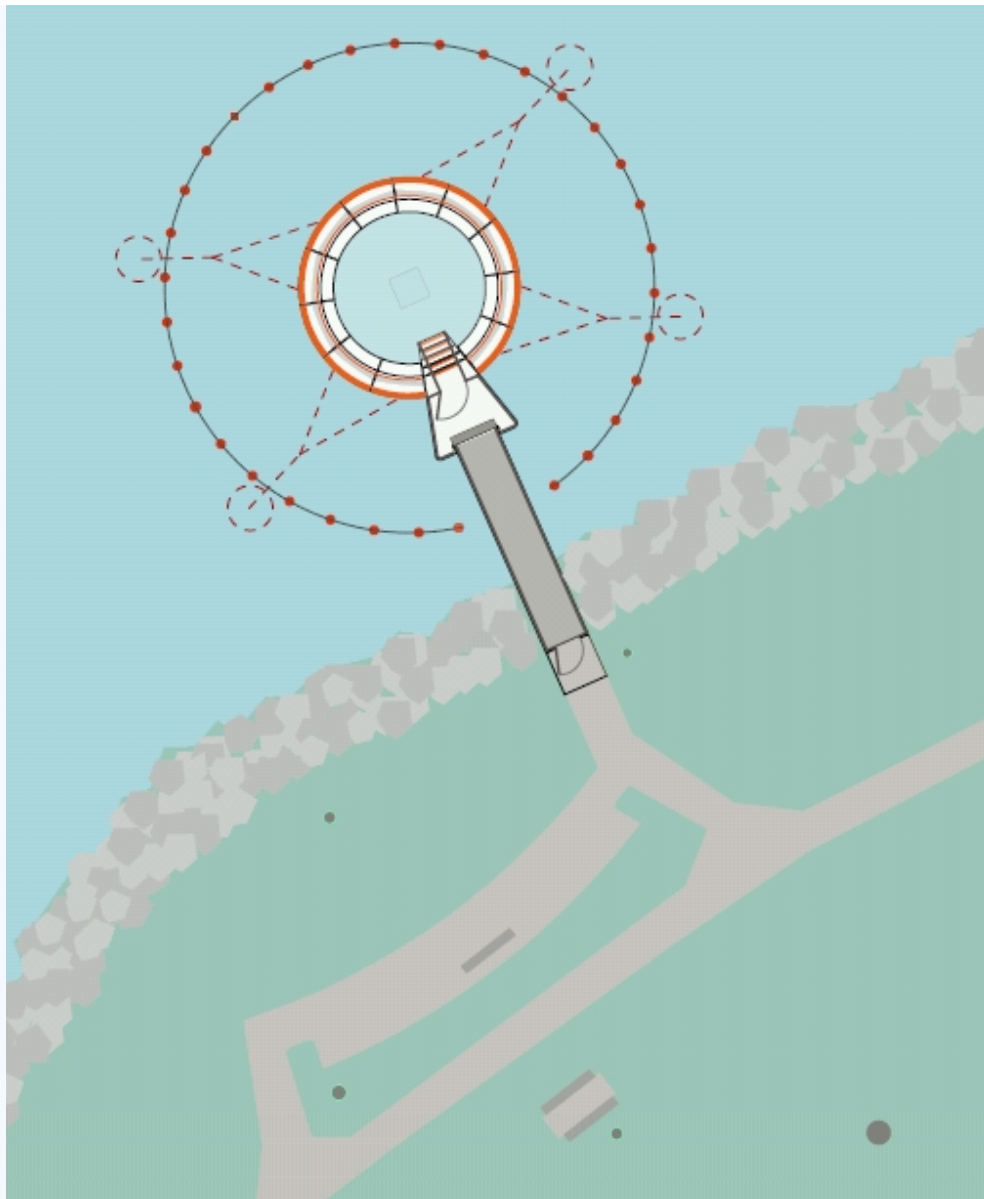
Site Plan

Riverfront Park is a City of Beacon municipal park located on the Hudson River waterfront just north of the Metro North train station. The floating River Pool will be installed about 25 feet offshore of the north side of the park. The pool is designed as a light-weight, collapsible structure that can be compactly stored on shore in the winter months.



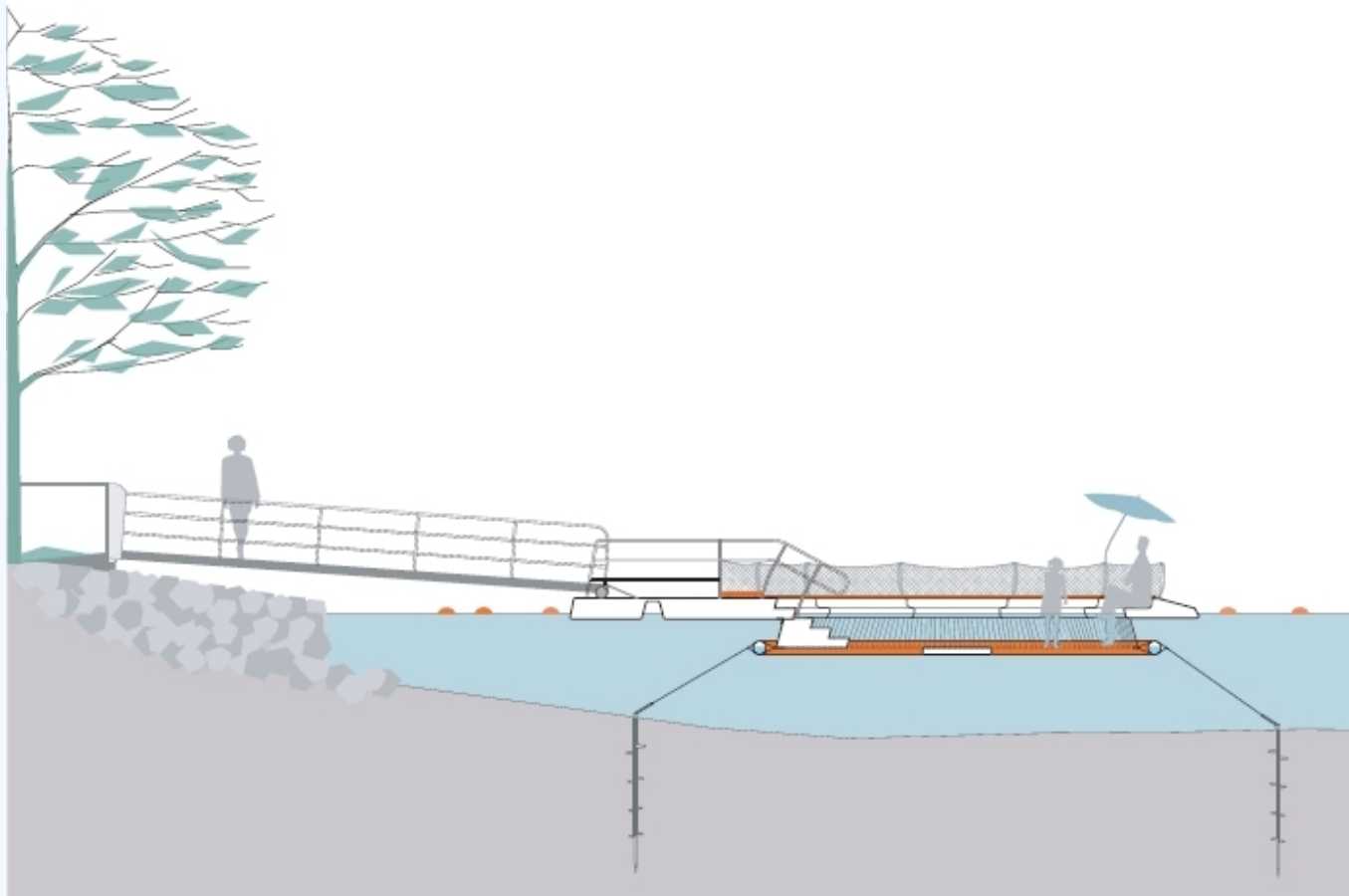
River Pool Plan

The River Pool prototype will be a 20 foot diameter wading pool with a water depth of 18 to 20 inches. The pool is supported by interconnected modular fiberglass floatations which also form a circular bench. The wading pool is for children of all ages as well as adults.

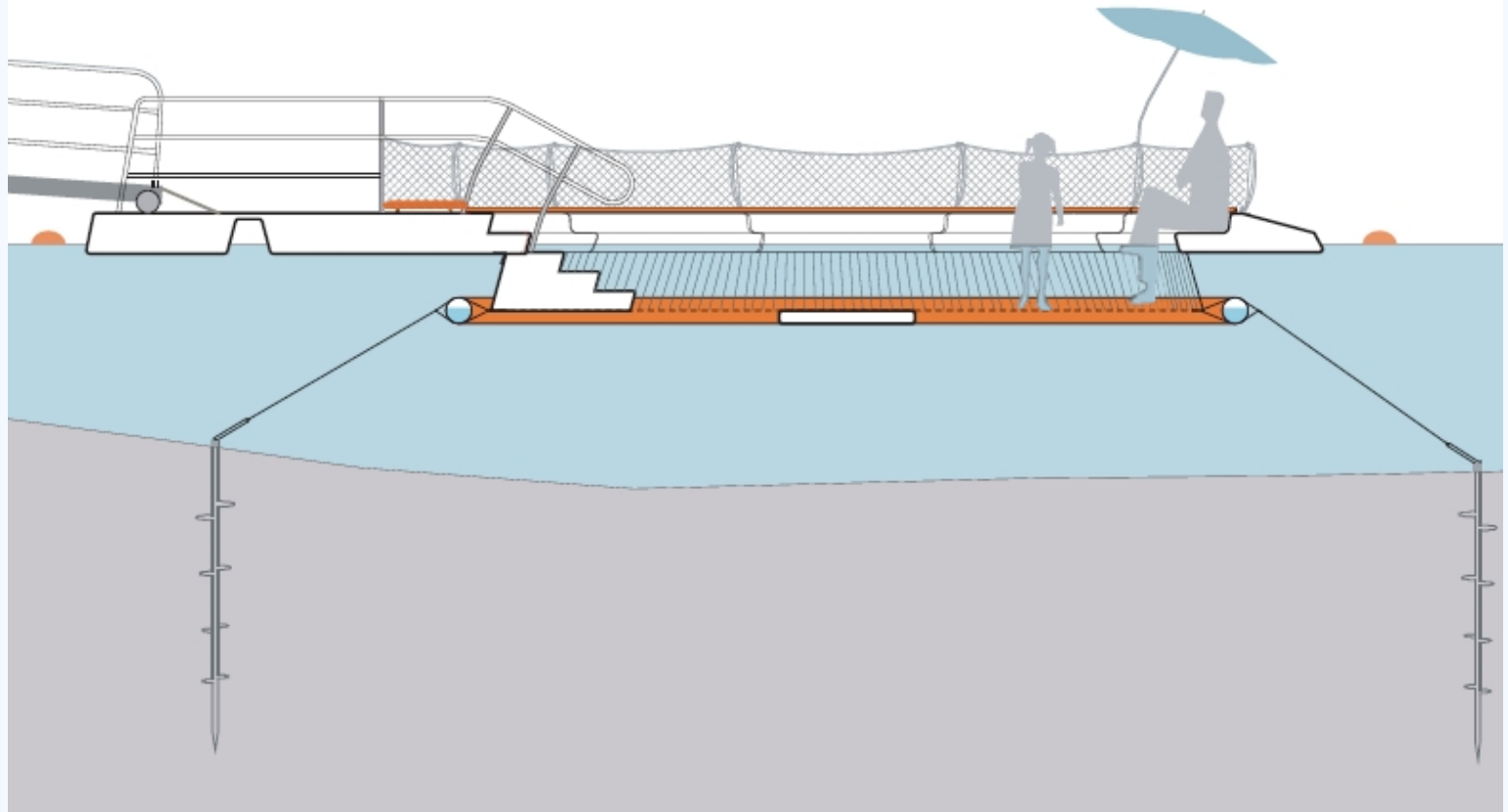


River Pool Cross Sections

From the shore, a ramp will lead to an entry floatation which has steps into the shallow wading area. The bottom of the pool will be made of woven nylon webbing that is open to the flow of the River and permits light to go through. An inflatable structural ring will hold the woven floor in tension. Below the water line, a rigid vertical rope fence encloses the wading pool area while allowing the River water to flow through the pool.



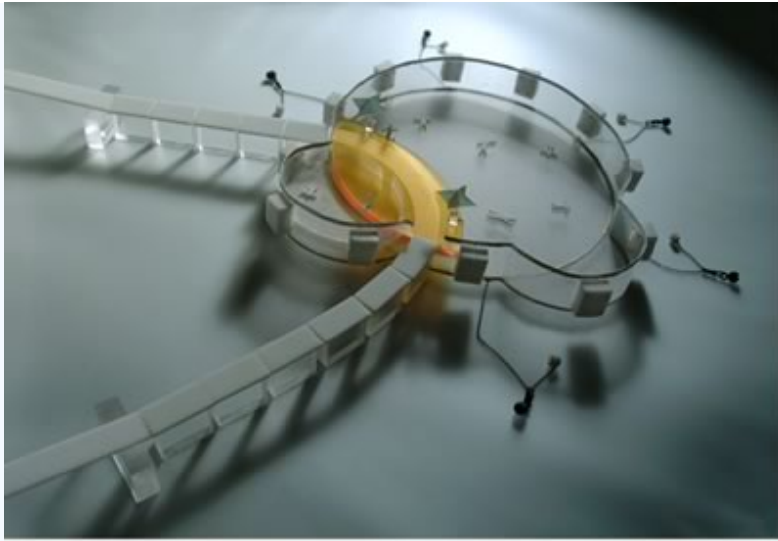
[Click here](#) to see an animation of how we plan to anchor the pool to the river bottom. We will be using a flexible rubber hawser attached to the anchor cables keep the pool in place while allowing for a 3-foot tidal range.



Future Vision

The 20-foot diameter prototype River Pool will inform the design, construction, and installation of a larger and deeper floating pool in the Hudson River near Riverfront Park in Beacon.

MODEL OF A LARGER FLOATING SWIMMING POOL
TO BE BUILT IN A FUTURE PHASE 2
Design: © Meta Brunzema Architect PC, 2002



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